

April 2006
NORTHERN COMMAND

SAFESTAT REPORT

Nevada Highway Patrol
Captain Scott Jackson

Overview

For the second consecutive month, there were no fatalities as a result of vehicle crashes in the Northern Command, a substantial decrease from April 2005 when there were four (4) fatalities resulting from crashes. The Northern Command also experienced a significant reduction in the number of total crashes - a decrease of 15% as compared to last month. Commercial vehicle crashes also decreased by over 21% from March 2006.

Crashes resulting from Driving Under the Influence increased by 10% from last month, but were unchanged from April 2005. However, DUI enforcement prior to crashes increased an impressive 53% from last year, but was down 3% compared to March 2006. Occupant restraint violations were down 9% from last month and 24% from last year, but should increase dramatically during May 2006 when the Department of Public Safety joins approximately 12,000 other law enforcement agencies from across the country in the "Click-it or Ticket" campaign designed to raise seatbelt awareness through zero-tolerance occupant restraint enforcement.

Commercial vehicle enforcement generated significant increases in traffic and hazardous moving violations and safety inspections in nearly every category as compared to last year, although slightly behind in most of those same categories, from last month. Hazardous moving violations were increased by a very impressive 108% compared to last year and over 7% from last month.

The success of traffic and commercial enforcement in the Northern Command resulting in no fatalities and fewer crashes is directly related to an increase in speed and hazardous moving violations, DUI enforcement, and the substantial decrease of construction zones in the Reno-Sparks urban area. The Fernley area continues to contend with construction areas and tremendous population growth which has contributed to an increase in crashes of 11% compared to last year, but a decrease of 34% compared to last month.

The Communication Center continues to be challenged by vacancies, resulting in substantial increases of compensatory and paid overtime earned by the Public Safety Dispatchers to compensate for staffing shortages. While staffing continues to decrease, radio traffic and logged incidents continue to increase; radio transmissions increased more than 21% from last year partly due to increased radio use by allied agencies. Logged incidents increased 48% from last year, consistent with the population growth in Northwest Nevada.

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NORTHERN COMMAND

CRASH ANALYSIS AND OVERVIEW

| | April 2006 | April 2005 | % Change | March 2006 | % Change |
|--|------------|------------|----------|------------|----------|
| Total Crashes | 340 | 337 | 0.9% | 403 | -15.6% |
| Property Crashes [including commercial vehicles] | 235 | 223 | 5.4% | 273 | -13.9% |
| Injury Crashes [including commercial vehicles] | 105 | 109 | -3.7% | 130 | -19.2% |
| Fatal Crashes [including commercial vehicles] | 0 | 4 | -400.0% | 0 | 0.0% |
| DUI Crashes [DUI charged] | 21 | 21 | 0.0% | 19 | 10.5% |
| Total persons killed in fatal crashes | 0 | 4 | -400.0% | 0 | 0.0% |
| Total drivers killed without seatbelts | 0 | 2 | -200.0% | 0 | 0.0% |
| Total passengers killed without seatbelts | 0 | 0 | 0.0% | 0 | 0.0% |
| Total drivers killed with seatbelts | 0 | 1 | -100.0% | 0 | 0.0% |
| Total passengers killed with seatbelts | 0 | 0 | 0.0% | 0 | 0.0% |
| Total persons killed - seatbelts not applicable | 0 | 1 | -100.0% | 0 | 0.0% |
| Total number of commercial vehicle crashes | 18 | 13 | 38.5% | 23 | -21.7% |
| Property crashes involving commercial vehicles | 14 | 10 | 40.0% | 16 | -12.5% |
| Injury crashes involving commercial vehicle | 4 | 3 | 33.3% | 7 | -42.9% |
| Fatal crashes involving commercial vehicle | 0 | 0 | 0.0% | 0 | 0.0% |

Percentage of fatal crashes to total crashes 0.0%

Percentage of DUI crashes to total crashes 6.2%

Percentage of persons killed *without* seatbelts to total persons killed 0.0%

Percentage of commercial vehicle crashes to total crashes 5.3%

CRASH ANALYSIS:

The Northern Command had a substantial drop in crashes as compared to last month. The 63 fewer crashes were in the Reno and Carson Districts. The Fernley District increased in crashes as the community continues to grow at a rapid pace. For the second month in a row, there were no fatal crashes to report. Last year the command had 4 fatal crashes in April. Commercial vehicle crashes also decreased by 21.7% from last month, but increased by 38% from last year.

FIELD ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITY

[Analysis and review of current reporting period, versus same period in previous fiscal year, versus previous reporting period]

| | April 2006 | | April 2005 | % Change | | March 2006 | % Change |
|---|------------|--|------------|----------|--|------------|----------|
| DUI arrests from crashes ** | 21 | | 21 | 0.0% | | 19 | 10.5% |
| DUI arrests <i>prior</i> to crashes ** | 118 | | 77 | 53.2% | | 122 | -3.3% |
| Other Arrests | 542 | | 375 | 44.5% | | 505 | 7.3% |
| Total persons arrested (DUI included) ** | 258 | | 193 | 33.7% | | 241 | 7.1% |
| Speed violations | 2140 | | 2115 | 1.2% | | 2011 | 6.4% |
| Hazardous moving violations | 728 | | 714 | 2.0% | | 801 | -9.1% |
| Occupant restraint violations * | 365 | | 481 | -24.1% | | 403 | -9.4% |
| Total violations [above violations included] | 5531 | | 6040 | -8.4% | | 5877 | -5.9% |
| Commercial Enforcement | | | | | | | |
| Hazardous moving violations - citations/arrests | 73 | | 35 | 108.6% | | 68 | 7.4% |
| Other traffic violations - citations/arrests | 54 | | 31 | 74.2% | | 80 | -32.5% |
| Total safety inspections [level 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6] | 724 | | 363 | 99.4% | | 840 | -13.8% |
| Terminal inspections [level 5] CR only | 0 | | 0 | 0.0% | | 3 | -300.0% |
| Total safety violations -- citation | 307 | | 205 | 49.8% | | 398 | -22.9% |
| Total safety violations -- repair order | 2576 | | 1104 | 133.3% | | 2610 | -1.3% |
| Total vehicles placed "Out of Service" | 57 | | 76 | -25.0% | | 111 | -48.6% |
| Total drivers placed "Out of Service" | 119 | | 21 | 466.7% | | 66 | 80.3% |
| Total school buses inspected | 117 | | 92 | 27.2% | | 121 | -3.3% |
| Total school buses placed "Out of Service" | 22 | | 14 | 57.1% | | 24 | -8.3% |
| Total trucks weighed | 414 | | 164 | 152.4% | | 262 | 58.0% |
| Total overweight citations | 53 | | 74 | -28.4% | | 94 | -43.6% |
| Total dyed fuel inspections | 381 | | 202 | 88.6% | | 383 | -0.5% |
| Total dyed fuel citations | 0 | | 3 | -300.0% | | 1 | -100.0% |

* Seat belt and child restraint

** Commercial Enforcement Activity Included

FIELD ENFORCEMENT:

The field enforcement efforts of the command's troopers were mixed when compared to last month and last year. DUI crashes increased by 2 over last month and DUI arrests prior to crash also decreased by 4. However, DUI arrests prior to crash increased by 53.2% over last year. Total violations, Hazardous moving and Occupant restraint violations decreased from last month. Speeding citations increased.

RENO URBAN TRAFFIC

The Reno Urban area was staffed with 34 troopers during the month of April. This is the same amount as last month and two more than the same period last year. However, one trooper will be transferring in May to Winnemucca and a trooper will be resigning in June. Two troopers will also be removed from urban operations for the Ice Team in June. This will again reduce our available personnel to critical levels. Two troopers remain on active military assignment.

Although crash statistics were down by 8% from last month, they were up by 7% over the same period last year. This would seem like a reasonable amount given the growth factor of the urban area. There were no fatal accidents in the urban area during the month of April 2006, and three fatal accidents in April 2005.

Overall enforcement activities showed a slight decrease from last month's 2,478 total violations to this month's 2,316 total violations or a decrease of 6.5%. DUI arrests were up by 2.4% from 84 last month, to 86 this month. However, there was a 50.9% increase over the same period last year.

CARSON/TAHOE/MINDEN

The Carson/Tahoe/Minden District showed a decrease in overall accidents with a slight increase in DUI and commercial related accidents. Additionally, there is approximately an average of a 30% decrease in injury accidents from the prior month as well as the prior year's comparison. CTM Dayshift experienced ten weather related accidents with seven (7) of the ten occurring in Washoe Valley. CTM Swing shift did not experience this anomaly.

CTM's enforcement activities increased comparatively to the prior year in all areas excluding restraints and hazardous moving violations. However, the CTM District has decreased overall by approximately 15 percent to the previous month. Additionally, due to scheduled leave, training and two (2) Troopers retiring unexpectedly, dayshift was able to conduct one (1) directive enforcement for the month. However, swing shift was not able/capable of conducting directive enforcement for the month of April.

The CTM District experienced a reduction in manpower due to family deaths, births, sickness, training and retirements.

FERNLEY/FALLON

The Fernley/Fallon District reported an 11% increase in total crashes for the month of April compared to last year but a 34% decrease compared to the previous month. The increase in crashes can be primarily attributed to the record population growth, and increased vehicular travel, which has increased the number of property damage crashes in the urban areas. Most importantly, injury crashes decreased this month by 11% compared to last year and decreased 24% compared to last month. There were no fatal crashes occurring this month compared to none last year and none last month. Commercial vehicle crashes also decreased by 25% compared to last year and 73% compared to last month.

The district reported an overall increase of 17% in field enforcement activity. This increase is mostly attributed to the efforts of the Fernley area officers who reported a very healthy 26.5 % increase in activity compared to last year and a respectable 15% increase in activity from the Fallon area officers compared to last year. Both areas report an increase in all reporting categories compared to last year; none more important than the 46% increase in hazardous moving violations.

One trooper in Fernley and one in Lovelock have continued to utilize recent commercial enforcement training resulting in, 23 inspections, issuing 5 citations and placing one driver out of service. These numbers are in addition to their normal assigned duties. Commercial enforcement efforts have held the previous years past trend of increased commercial vehicle crashes, to no increase so far this year.

Overall, the Fernley, Fallon, Yerington and Lovelock troopers and their sergeants are to be commended for, their improved field enforcement activity, Their dedication to reduce the severity of injuries associated with vehicle crashes, their personal service to the motoring public and professionalism in the performance of duty.

COMMERCIAL ENFORCEMENT

The Northern Command Commercial Enforcement Section will meet or exceed the goals and objectives as stated in the Commercial Vehicle Safety Plan. At the end of April 2006, the Northern Command Commercial Enforcement Section was ahead in its year-to-date goals in Level I/II/III inspections, Level II/III enforcement inspections, interstate/ secondary roadway weight enforcement and compliance reviews. April is the first month of the third quarter of the Federal Fiscal Year and the yearly goal achievements percentages should be around 58%. The Northern Command has achieved 67.63% of its Level I inspections, 77.95% of its Level II/III inspections, 218.79% of its Level 2/3 enforcement inspections and 67.26% of trucks weighed on interstate highways. The region is still slightly behind in hazardous materials and motor coach inspections. Commercial dayshift personnel targeted these areas and we will continue to place our enforcement efforts in these deficient areas. It is anticipated that all year-to-date deficiencies will be resolved by the end of June.

Two Commercial Vehicle Safety Inspectors (CVSI's) attended the Compliance Review (CR) certification course. After passing this course, the CVSI's will now be assigned numerous CR's and must complete them. This task will take a few months to complete. In May, the CVSI's will also continue with their spring inspection cycle of school buses in the Northern Command. The majority of the rural school buses inspections have been completed and the CVSI's will complete the Washoe County School District inspection in May and June. In addition, the Northern Command will continue to monitor the out-of-service ratio of buses in the Washoe County School District.

The Commercial Enforcement Section is still participating in the Southern Command Strike-Force (STEP) program. The Northern Command sent four commercial personnel to Las Vegas during the last week of April. The STEP program is designed to saturate enforcement efforts in the accident corridors in the Las Vegas Valley and reduce CMV crashes. The Northern Command personnel completed 106 inspections, 425 mechanical repair orders; 44 citations and 4 overweight citations were issued. During this operation, there were no CMV accidents on the targeted roadways and it was reported that numerous truckers were waiting at local truck stops until "NHP went home" before continuing on their routes.

The Commercial Enforcement Section started its "Strike Team" efforts here in the Northern Command area. There were two (2) scheduled days where a team of three commercial personnel went to the high CMV collision areas. The first day efforts were hindered by construction on US95A. However, even with a slow first day, both days' recorded 43 inspections, 116 mechanical repair orders, 5 citations and 13 vehicles/drivers placed out of service.

AIR OPERATIONS

The Hangar lease at the Elko airport has been signed and the 172 will be moved during May. The 210 will be moved to the vacated hangar at the Carson City airport.

The class *Law Enforcement Officers Flying Armed* was presented to 27 academy students. This is a one-time class required by the FAA for any officer to fly armed on a commercial airliner for any reason. This class is now a permanent part of the academy curriculum. Over the next few months, we will be teaching the class to those field officers who still need it.

A short presentation to the FBI National Academy Association was given in Elko to explain the function and capabilities of the airplane now assigned to the Central Command.

15 speed enforcement missions were scheduled for the month. 11 were flown; 3 were cancelled for bad weather and one was cancelled for unscheduled maintenance. A total of 375 enforcement actions were taken; a 21% increase over the prior year.

Eight prisoner transports were accomplished during the month, a significant increase over the one transport conducted for the same period last year.

One personnel transport from Elko to Reno was accomplished as well as a property relay from Reno to Tonopah.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

| ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES | April 2006 | April 2005 | % Change | March 2006 | % Change |
|--------------------------------------|------------|------------|----------|------------|----------|
| FRONT OFFICE | | | | | |
| Accident Reports Processed | 291 | 417 | -30.21% | 340 | -14.41% |
| Arrest Reports Processed | 214 | 136 | +57.35% | 235 | -8.94% |
| Incident / Officer Reports Processed | 11 | 4 | +175% | 15 | -26.67% |
| Office Accident Reports Taken | 12 | 21 | -42.86% | 14 | -14.29% |
| COURT / WARRANT | | | | | |
| Warrants Received | 464 | 322 | +44.10% | 517 | -10.25% |
| Warrants Entered | 218 | 410 | -46.83% | 355 | -38.59% |
| Warrants Cleared | 398 | 530 | -24.91% | 556 | -28.42% |
| Warrants Validated | 111 | 143 | -22.38% | 179 | -37.99% |
| Citations Processed | 3597 | 3460 | +3.96% | 2638 | +36.35% |
| COMMUNICATION CENTER | | | | | |
| Radio Transmissions | 109978 | 90152 | 21.99% | 111418 | -1.29% |
| CAD incidents | 14399 | 9722 | 48.11% | 14711 | -2.12% |

FRONT OFFICE

The last vacant Administrative Assistant II position has been filled. We offered employment to the first choice of the candidates, and she completed the background process successfully. Her first day will be May 1, 2006.

Sick leave decreased this period by 29%, with compensatory leave decreasing by 29%, as well. Annual leave also significantly decreased by 65.5%. Paid overtime decreased by 5%. Overtime is being utilized for basic warrant entry, which totaled an extra 116 warrants this period. Training increased due to the front office supervisor taking required safety training courses from Nevada OSHA for the Safety Coordinator portion of the position. A Northern Command Safety Committee will be established during the next quarter. One AAI was used as an NCJIS/NCIC trainer to the two new warrants clerks, and the citation clerk. They have completed "Entry Level" testing, and are fully certified for access. This was held over a three-day period at the Training Academy in Carson City.

Office reports taken have decreased by 14%. Arrest reports decreased 9%. Incident reports taken by officers decreased by 27%.

Goals for the administrative section: Continue training both clerks in Court Warrants to prepare them adequately to handle the business in the new Carson City EOC with minimal assistance from the Reno office. Train the incoming AAI on all front office routines.

COURT WARRANTS

Regular citations processed increased by 36% from the last rating period. Warrant entry is current through November. The second Court Warrants clerk started on April 10, 2006. One clerk is still being utilized as a trainer to the two new clerks in the warrants office on a daily basis. She has also been responsible for performing 7 court runs, processing 120 subpoenas for troopers, and handling 70 court documents while the Warrants Officer was on leave this rating period.

There was a 10% decrease in new warrants received. Warrants entered decreased by 38.5% due to training new staff and conducting testing for certification. Clearing warrants decreased this period by 28% and validations decreased 38%.

COMMUNICATIONS

The Northern Command Communication center remained down four PSD I and one PSD IV positions during April, due to 2 resignations of PSD I positions. This leaves us missing 1/3 of our personnel. There is one PSD currently in training, who will be released from training at the end of May. Two more PSD 1s and one PSD 4 will begin work in May.

Total work hours lost decreased by 20.48% since last month primarily due to a decrease in comp leave. It decreased by 18% from the previous year due to a decrease in sick and training leaves.

Compensatory overtime increased by 87.50% when compared to last month. Overtime as a whole increased by 50.37% when compared to the same period last year and decreased by 36.73% when compared to last month. Both amounts are due to the increased number of vacancies in the Center. The decrease compared to last month is due to the decrease in work hours lost. The coverage of vacant positions accounted for 72.22% of the comp overtime and 56.96% of the paid overtime; annual leave for 4.44% & 18.35%, and sick leave 0% & 11.39% respectively.

Radio transmissions increased by 21.99% over this period last year and decreased 1.29% since last month. CAD incidents have increased by 48.11% over last year and decreased 2.12% since last month. The primary reason for the increase in transmissions is due to the new arrival of field personnel as well as increased radio use by allied agencies. Increased

reporting standards have also increased the use of CAD. The increase in incidents is primarily due to the increase in population reporting more and more information to DPS. The decreases over last month are due to a decrease in busy storm days.

PUBLIC RELATIONS COORDINATOR

Winter-like weather continued to linger in northern Nevada as we approached the beginning of this month, thus prompting many additional morning traffic reports with the three television stations and several area radio stations. In addition to these extra traffic related interviews to the community, via the media, we are continuing to deliver 5 live traffic reports on News Channel 8 each weekday as well as 2 live traffic reports daily on 94.5 FM radio.

Also during the first week of the month, personnel from NHP Northern Command and Parole and Probation volunteered 4 hours of their time in uniform to help support our third consecutive "Tip-A-Cop" event at the Claim Jumper restaurant in Reno. Personnel shadowed the restaurant staff in an effort to raise funds and awareness for Special Olympics Nevada. Last year we raised \$4,803.00 and surpassed that amount this year by generating \$5,120.00. All of the funds raised stay in northern Nevada allowing the athletes to participate in local and regional games at no costs to their families.

A tour of our Northern Command building was provided to a group of cub scouts and their den leaders along with a safety briefing. Topics including seatbelts, vehicle distracters, "stranger danger," and bicycle safety and crosswalk awareness were covered during the 30-minute presentation. The scouts also had a photo taken alongside a patrol car as a memory of their field trip.

We also were invited to the annual safety day event at Damonte Ranch High School. Two safety presentations were delivered to the students during their event, which began at 7:30 am and ended at 2:00 pm. We also staffed personnel to assist with the Victim Impact Panel at the county building in Reno. Frequently, defendants arrive at this court-mandated event with alcohol in their system. Troopers assist the deputies by providing breath alcohol testing results, which are completed in the Breath Alcohol Testing (BAT) mobile. With Memorial Day rapidly approaching which is often referred to as the unofficial start of summer, this was an ideal time to invite the media to help bring awareness to drinking and driving.

As we continue to look forward into the month of May, there will be a number of traffic stories completed in an effort to reduce accidents and arrests by educating our community with the assistance of the media.

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